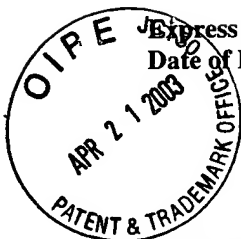


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Taupier et al.
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/813,432 EXAMINER: Eliane M. Lazar-Wesley
FILING DATE: March 20, 2001 ART UNIT: 1646
FOR: NOVEL POLYPEPTIDES AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 19, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action dated November 19, 2002 ("Office Action"), Applicants file this amendment and response. A petition for a two-month extension of time is filed herewith. With this extension of time, these documents are due on Monday, April 21, 2003 (April 19, 2003 being a Saturday). Please charge any payments or credit any overpayments of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, reference 15966-729.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 44-48 without prejudice or disclaimer as drawn to non-elected inventions, cancel claims 2-4, amend claims 1, 29 and 32, add new claims 49-63 and replace the pending claims with the following:

- C1 1. (Twice amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of amino acids 48-353 of SEQ ID NO: 22.
- C2 29. (Amended) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- C3 32. (Amended) A kit comprising in one or more containers, the composition of claim 29.
- C4 49. (New) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of a variant of amino acids 48-353 of SEQ ID NO: 22, wherein any amino acid in amino acids 48-353 of SEQ ID NO: 22 is changed to a different amino acid, provided that no more than one of the amino acid residues in the sequence of amino acids 48-353 of SEQ ID NO: 22 is so changed.